2. (Twice Amended) The band saw blade of claim 1 wherein:

each of the set teeth comprise a relief surface and a cutting surface, the relief surface extending from one side of the tip in a direction opposite that of movement of the band saw blade and terminating at one end of an intermediate surface, and the cutting surface extending from another side of the tip; and

the shelf comprises a shelf surface extending from the cutting surface and terminating at another end of the intermediate surface.

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9. (Once Amended) The band saw blade of claim 2 wherein a length (L1) of the shelf surface defined between the cutting surface and the intermediate surface is within the range of approximately .06 inch to approximately .1 inch.

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12. (Once Amended) A wood cutting band saw blade that when cutting wood produces saw dust and forms a kerf, comprising:

a cutting edge defined by a plurality of teeth spaced relative to each other, and a back edge located on an opposite side of the band saw blade relative to the cutting edge, the plurality of teeth comprising a plurality of set teeth, each set tooth defining a tip, a bend plane, and a shelf located at least partially between the tip and the bend plane for reducing saw dust passing to he kerf and accumulating on the band saw blade; wherein

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each of the set of teeth comprise a relief surface and a cutting surface, the relief surface extending from one side of the tip in a direction opposite that of the movement of the band saw blade and terminating at one end of an intermediate surface and the cutting surface extending from another side of the tip;

the shelf comprises a shelf surface extending from the cutting surface and terminating at another end of the intermediate surface; and

the shelf surface comprises a first portion that is generally parallel to the back edge and a second portion that is disposed at an acute angle (A2) relative to the back edge.

23. (Twice Amended) The band saw blade of claim 3 wherein:

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a plurality of set teeth each comprise a second shelf;

each second shelf comprises a second shelf surface, and each second shelf defines a dimension (S2) extending between the tip of the respective tooth and the second shelf.

27. (Once Amended) A wood cutting band saw blade having a lateral surface and generating dust during cutting of wood, the band saw blade comprising:

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a base having a back edge;

a cutting edge defined by a plurality of teeth spaced relative to each other and being located on an opposite side of the band saw blade relative to the back edge, the plurality of teeth comprising a plurality of set teeth, each set tooth defining a tip, a bend plane, a dust gap extending approximately between an outer lateral point of the tip and a lateral surface of the base, and means located between the tip of each set tooth and the bend plane for reducing the quantity of dust passing through the dust gap and accumulating on the band saw blade.

30. (Twice Amended) The band saw blade of claim 28 wherein:

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each of the set teeth comprise a relief surface and a cutting surface, the relief surface extending from one side of the tip in a direction opposite that of movement of the band saw blade

and terminating at one end of an intermediate surface, and the cutting surface extending from another side of the tip; and

the shelf comprises a shelf surface extending from the cutting surface and terminating at another end of the intermediate surface.

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34. (Once Amended) A wood cutting band saw blade having a lateral surface and generating dust during cutting of wood, the band saw blade comprising:

a base having a back edge;

a cutting edge defined by a plurality of teeth spaced relative to each other and being located on an opposite side of the band saw blade relative to the back edge, the plurality of teeth comprising a plurality of set teeth, each set tooth defining a tip, a bend plane, a dust gap dimension extending approximately between an outer lateral point of the tip and a lateral surface of the base; and

means located at least partially between the tip and the bend plane for effectively reducing the dust gap dimension.

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36. (Once Amended) The band saw blade of claim 35 wherein the means for effectively reducing the dust gap dimension further comprises a relief portion extending from the tip of the respective set tooth at an acute angle to a transverse axis of the saw blade.

37. (Twice Amended) The band saw blade of claim 35 wherein:

each of the set teeth comprise a relief surface and a cutting surface, the relief surface extending from one side of the tip in a direction opposite that of movement of the band saw blade

and terminating at one end of an intermediate surface, and the cutting surface extending from another side of the tip; and

the shelf comprises a shelf surface extending from the cutting surface and terminating at another end of the intermediate surface.

Please add new claims 41-47, which read as follows:

41. (New) The band saw blade of claim 1 wherein the plurality of teeth further comprise a plurality of unset teeth and wherein:

B13 the plurality of teeth have a repeating pattern of one unset tooth and four set teeth; and

the set teeth are alternately set in directions on opposing sides of the cutting edge.

42. (New) The band saw blade of claim 2 wherein the intermediate surface comprises a curvilinear base surface that defines a gullet.

43. (New) The band saw blade of claim 42 further comprising at least one bump portion extending outwardly from a surface of each gullet.

44. (New) The band saw blade of claim 43 wherein the at least one bump portion comprises a bump portion extending outwardly from a first side surface and a second side surface of each gullet

45. (New) The band saw blade of claim 43 wherein the at least one bump portion has a height (H) within the range of approximately .04 to approximately .06 inch from the curvilinear base surface.

46. (New) The band saw blade of claim 45 wherein the bump portion has a lateral width (W) as measured from a side surface of a base of the band saw blade that is within the range of approximately .005 inch to approximately .015 inch.

47. (New) The band saw blade of claim 42 wherein the gullet has a depth (D) as measured from the tip of a tooth and the dimension (S1) is approximately one third of (D).